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www.statsnwt.ca

NWT Labour Force Activity

October 2015

Overview

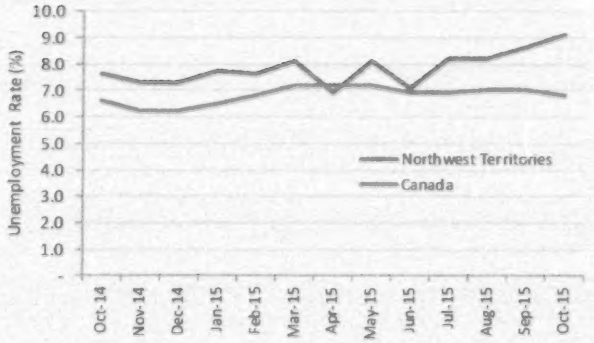
Statistics Canada estimates that in October 2015, 21,900 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories, representing an employment rate of 68.7%. This is an increase from one year ago. The unemployment rate, also increased in the NWT between October 2014 and October 2015. Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 61.8%.

Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories

	October-2015	September-2015	October-2014	Change from Oct 2014 – Oct 2015	
				No. of Persons	%
Population 15+	31,900	31,800	32,300	(400)	-1.2
Labour force	24,100	24,300	23,700	400	1.7
Employment	21,900	22,200	21,900	-	-
Full-time	19,300	19,400	19,800	(500)	-2.5
Part-time	2,600	2,800	2,100	500	23.8
Unemployment	2,200	2,100	1,800	400	22.2
Participation rate (%)	75.5	76.4	73.4		
Unemployment rate (%)	9.1	8.6	7.6		
Employment rate (%)	68.7	69.8	67.8		

The NWT unemployment rate has increased over the last two months and was 9.1% in October 2015. Year-over-year, the unemployment rate increased by 1.5 percentage points. The unemployment rate for Canada increased by 0.2 percentage points to 6.8% over the same period.

Figure 1: Unemployment rates during past 12 months, Northwest Territories & Canada



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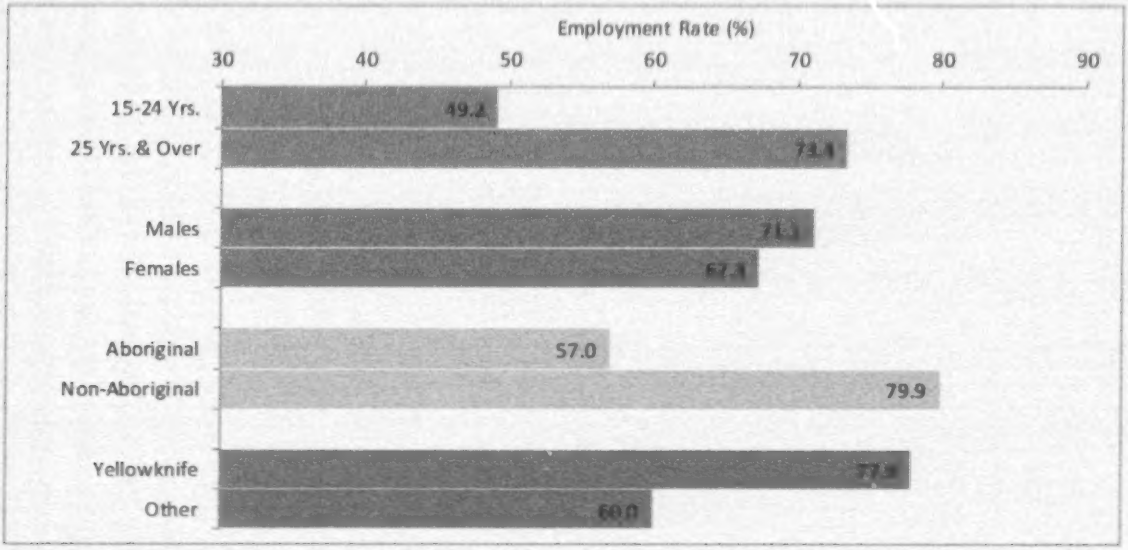
EMPLOYMENT BY KEY CHARACTERISTICS

Compared to September 2015, employment in the NWT decreased by 300 people. Youth aged 15 to 24 years of age accounted for all of this monthly decline. The employment rate for youths aged 15 to 24 dropped 5.0 percentage points compared to no change among those aged 25 and over. While the employment rate for males remained higher than for females, it declined 1.2 percentage points from September, compared to a 0.6 percentage point rise for females. In Yellowknife, the employment rate was 1.7 percentage points lower than the previous month, while it was 0.8 points lower for the rest of the territory.

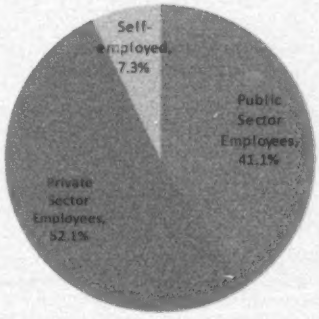
Figure 2: Employment rates by key characteristics, Oct 2015



EMPLOYMENT BY CLASS OF WORKER

Compared to October 2014, employment in the private sector increased by 500 persons. This was offset by employment declines in the public sector and in self-employment. Figure 3 presents the distribution of the employed by class of worker.

Figure 3: Employed persons by class of worker Northwest Territories, Oct 2015



HISTORICAL LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY

Table 2: Labour Force Activity -Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Oct-15	31,900	24,100	21,900	2,200	7,700	75.5	9.1	68.7
Sep-15	31,800	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,500	76.4	8.6	69.8
Aug-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jul-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jun-15	31,900	23,800	22,200	1,700	8,000	74.6	7.1	69.6
May-15	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Apr-15	32,100	23,200	21,600	1,600	8,800	72.3	6.9	67.3
Mar-15	32,200	23,600	21,700	1,900	8,500	73.3	8.1	67.4
Feb-15	32,200	23,600	21,800	1,800	8,600	73.3	7.6	67.7
Jan-15	32,300	23,400	21,600	1,800	8,900	72.4	7.7	66.9
Dec-14	32,300	23,300	21,600	1,700	9,000	72.1	7.3	66.9
Nov-14	32,300	23,400	21,800	1,700	8,900	72.4	7.3	67.5
Previous Years:								
Oct-14	32,300	23,700	21,900	1,800	8,700	73.4	7.6	67.8
Oct-13	32,600	25,200	23,300	2,000	7,300	77.3	7.9	71.5
Oct-12	32,500	25,500	23,600	1,900	7,000	78.5	7.5	72.6
Oct-11	32,300	25,100	23,400	1,800	7,200	77.7	7.2	72.4
Oct-10	32,100	23,300	22,000	1,300	8,800	72.6	5.6	68.5
Oct-09	31,700	22,600	20,800	1,700	9,100	71.3	7.5	65.6
Oct-08	31,800	24,200	23,100	1,100	7,600	76.1	4.5	72.6
Oct-07	31,600	24,800	23,400	1,400	6,800	78.5	5.6	74.1
Oct-06	31,300	24,100	23,000	1,100	7,200	77.0	4.6	73.5
Oct-05	31,300	24,000	22,800	1,200	7,300	76.7	5.0	72.8

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca/ or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: December 4, 2015